



## Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet News Release

### State Announces \$3.6 Million Reclamation Project

FRANKFORT, Ky., (Nov. 4, 2002) – One of the worst abandoned mine sites in eastern Kentucky will be reclaimed under a \$3.6 million contract announced today by the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet. The abandoned mine site in Floyd County has been polluting the area for years.

The project will reclaim the Spewing Camp Branch refuse site, a 60-acre area containing approximately seven million cubic yards of coal refuse. The refuse was placed on the site by the Island Creek Coal Co., which mined the site from 1952-1981.

In 1989 Enerpro Inc. received a permit to reprocess the refuse, but stopped operations in 1993.

"Water runoff from this site is very high in iron, turning the creek red and has been depositing sediment in nearby streams," said Hank List, secretary of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet. "Reclamation will reduce local flooding and improve aquatic life in nearby streams."

Hawkeye Construction, LLC of Robinson Creek, Kentucky, was awarded the contract to clean up the site, which is expected to take two years. The refuse pile will be shaped and covered with soil from two other sites in the area and with soil adjacent to the site. Approximately two feet of soil will be placed over the area and silt control will be added to control runoff during construction.

Funding for the reclamation will come from the bond posted by Enerpro, state Abandoned Mine Land funds, Appalachian Clean Streams funds and the state's Supplemental Bond Forfeiture Reclamation Fund.